

Application No.: 10/630,535

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Docket No.: 490102001500

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 were pending in the present application. By virtue of this response, Claims 6, 13, and 15 have been cancelled, and Claims 1, 12, 17, 18, 19, 23 and 24 have been amended. Accordingly, Claims 1-5, 7-12, 14, and 16-24 are currently under consideration. Amendment and cancellation of certain claims is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented.

Claim Rejections-35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16 – 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicants Admitted prior Art (hereinafter AAPA) in view of U.S. Patent no. 6,351,183 to Khabbaz et al.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6 and 15 were indicated as reciting allowable subject matter. Base Claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter of dependent Claim 6. Base Claim 12 is amended to include the subject matter of dependent Claim 15 and intervening Claim 13. Claims 14, 17-20, and 23-24 are amended to conform to the base claim.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, all presently pending claims in this application are believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing Attorney Docket No. 490102001500.

Dated: February 14, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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